

"Forest Eco" is a 2-minute podcast and radio module produced and distributed by the U.S. Forest Service Southern Research Station. The podcast leads listeners on an electronic expedition into the exciting world of Forest Service research. Each edition connects the audience to government scientists who are working to better understand the issues influencing the South's natural resources. Forest Eco informs residents of the 13 Southern states and beyond about the forces affecting forest ecosystems spanning "Virginia to Florida, Texas to Kentucky." It educates people about the environment and encourages them to explore their surroundings. Climate change, invasive plants, wood-to-energy, water quality, urban/wildland, and wildlife are among the "hot topics" you will hear covered on Forest Eco.

The podcast is informative, yet up-beat and positive in tone, accompanied by the sounds of nature. Each module concludes with a practical tip or recommendation for the land owner or resident suggesting how they can improve the land or reduce their footprint on the planet. The Forest Eco tip delivers practical solutions for today's natural resource concerns.

The Southern Research Station offers Forest Eco free of charge to commercial, public, and online radio stations. Editions of Forest Eco can be downloaded using the mp3 or way files online at http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/foresteco/. Program directors are asked to notify Stevin Westcott, Southern Research Station Press Officer and Forest Eco host, if they plan to air the program.

Stevin Westcott produces and narrates the radio module. Stevin is former producer of a nationally syndicated radio program, which aired on 175 public and commercial stations across the United States and around the world on Armed Forces Radio and Voice of America.

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About the Southern Research Station

The Southern Research Station is part of the Nation's largest forestry research organization – USDA Forest Service Research and Development – the leading organization for research on natural resource management and sustainability in the United States. Headquartered in Asheville, North Carolina, the Southern Research Station serves 13 Southern States and beyond.

Since the beginning of the 20th Century, our researchers have excelled in studies on temperate and tropical forests, forest resources, and forest products. These studies provide a wealth of long-term data sets and conclusions on the dynamics of tree plantations and natural stands, watersheds, and wildlife habitats.

Today the Station's staff of 130 scientists is organized into research work units within science areas, with science technicians and other support personnel who work at various locations through the region: at Federal laboratories, university campuses, and experimental forests.

Research & Development
Southern Research Station





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Research Work Units: (listed alphabetically by location by Science Area)

Forest Ecosystem Restoration and Management

Asheville, NC • Upland Hardwood Ecology & Management • 828-667-5261 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/bentcreek

Auburn, **AL** • Restoring and Managing Longleaf Pine Ecosystems • 334-826-8700 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/4111

Monticello, **AR** • Southern Pine Ecology and Management • 870-367-3464 • *www.srs.fs.usda.gov/4106*

Saucier, MS • Forest Genetics and Ecosystems Biology • 228-832-2747 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/organization/unit/mississippi.htm#SRS-4153

Forest Values, Uses, and Policies

Athens, **GA** • Integrating Human and Natural Systems • 706-559-4263 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/trends

Auburn, AL • Forest Operations • 334-826-8700 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/forestops

Pineville, LA • Utilization of Southern Forest Resources • 318-473-7268 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/4701

Research Triangle Park, **NC** • Forest Economics and Policy • 919-549-4093 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/econ

Threats to Forest Health

Asheville, NC • Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center • 828-257-4854 • www.forestthreats.org

Athens, **GA** • Center for Forest Disturbance Science • 706-559-4316 • http://srs.fs.usda.gov/disturbance

Pineville, LA • Insects, Diseases, and Invasive Plants of Southern Forests • 318-473-7232 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/4501

Forest Watershed Science

Franklin, NC • Center for Forest Watershed Research • 828-524-2128 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/coweeta

Lincoln, NE • National Agroforestry Center • 402-437-5178 • *www.nac.gov*

Stoneville, MS • Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research • 662-686-3154 • www.srs.fs.usda.gov/cbhr

Natural Resources Inventory and Monitoring

Knoxville, TN • Forest Inventory and Analysis • 865-862-2000 • www.srsfia2.fs.fed.us